

PRIME FARMLAND
Richland County, North Dakota

Prime farmland is one of several kinds of important farmland defined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. It is of major importance in meeting the Nation's short- and long-range needs for food and fiber. Because the supply of high-quality farmland is limited, the U.S. Department of Agriculture recognizes that responsible levels of government, as well as individuals, should encourage and facilitate the wise use of our Nation's prime farmland.

Prime farmland, as defined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is land that has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops and is available for these uses. It could be cultivated land, pastureland, forestland, or other land, but it is not urban or built-up land or water areas. The soil qualities, growing season, and moisture supply are those needed for the soil to economically produce sustained high yields of crops when proper management, including water management, and acceptable farming methods are applied. In general, prime farmland has an adequate and dependable supply of moisture from precipitation or irrigation, a favorable temperature and growing season, acceptable acidity or alkalinity, an acceptable salt and sodium content, and few or no rocks. It is permeable to water and air. It is not excessively erodible or saturated with water for long periods, and it either is not frequently flooded during the growing season or is protected from flooding. Slope ranges mainly from 0 to 6 percent. More detailed information about the criteria for prime farmland is available at the local office of the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

A recent trend in land use in some parts of the survey area has been the loss of some prime farmland to industrial and urban uses. The loss of prime farmland to other uses puts pressure on marginal lands, which generally are more erodible, droughty, and less productive and cannot be easily cultivated.

The map units in the survey area that are considered prime farmland are listed in the following table. This list does not constitute a recommendation for a particular land use. On some soils included in the list, measures that overcome a hazard or limitation, such as flooding, wetness, and droughtiness, are needed. Onsite evaluation is needed to determine whether or not the hazard or limitation has been overcome by corrective measures. The extent of each listed map unit is shown in the "Acres and Proportionate Extent of Soils" table. The location is shown on the detailed soil maps. The soil qualities that affect use and management are described in other tables in this document."

PRIME FARMLAND--Continued
Richland County, North Dakota

Map symbol	Mapunit name	Farmland Classification
Af	Aastad-forman loams	All areas are prime farmland
Ar	Antler silty clay loam	All areas are prime farmland
BdB	Barnes-svea loams, undulating	All areas are prime farmland
Bf	Bearden silty clay loam	All areas are prime farmland
Bg	Bearden and glyndon silt loams, moderately deep over clay	All areas are prime farmland
Ca	Cashel silty clay	All areas are prime farmland
Do	Doran clay loam	All areas are prime farmland
Fa	Fairdale silt loam	All areas are prime farmland
Fd	Fairdale silty clay loam	All areas are prime farmland
FuB	Forman-aastad loam, undulating	All areas are prime farmland
FuB2	Forman-aastad loams, undulating, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
FwB	Forman-peevee clay loams, undulating	All areas are prime farmland
Ge	Gardena silt loam	All areas are prime farmland
GfB	Gardena-eckman silt loams, undulating	All areas are prime farmland
Gh	Gardena and embden loams	All areas are prime farmland
Gk	Gilby silt loam	All areas are prime farmland
Gn	Gilby and hamerly loams	All areas are prime farmland
Go	Glyndon silt loam	All areas are prime farmland
Gu	Glyndon and wyndmere loams	All areas are prime farmland
Hh	Hamerly loam	All areas are prime farmland
La	Ladelle silty clay loam	All areas are prime farmland
Lp	La prairie silt loam	All areas are prime farmland
Oc	Overly silty clay loam	All areas are prime farmland
OlB	Overly-beotia silty clay loams, undulating	All areas are prime farmland
Pf	Peevee-forman clay loams	All areas are prime farmland
Su	Svea loam	All areas are prime farmland
SvB	Svea-buse loams, undulating	All areas are prime farmland
Sw	Svea-gardena loams	All areas are prime farmland
Sy	Swenoda-wyndmere fine sandy loams	All areas are prime farmland
W	Water	All areas are prime farmland
Wa	Wahpeton silty clay	All areas are prime farmland
Wy	Wyndmere fine sandy loam	All areas are prime farmland
As	Antler-tonka silty clay loams	Prime farmland if drained
Bo	Borup loam	Prime farmland if drained
Co	Colvin silty clay loam	Prime farmland if drained
Dp	Doran-perella clay loams	Prime farmland if drained
Dt	Doran-tonka silty clay loams	Prime farmland if drained
En	Embden-tiffany fine sandy loams	Prime farmland if drained
Et	Embden-tiffany loams	Prime farmland if drained
Fe	Fargo silty clay loam	Prime farmland if drained
Ff	Fargo silty clay	Prime farmland if drained
Fg	Fargo silty clay, depressional	Prime farmland if drained
FhB	Fargo silty clay, gently sloping	Prime farmland if drained
Fk	Fargo silty clay, till substratum	Prime farmland if drained
Fm	Fargo-enloe silty clay loams	Prime farmland if drained
Fn	Fargo-enloe complex, till substratum	Prime farmland if drained
Fo	Fargo-hegne silty clays	Prime farmland if drained
Fp	Fargo-hegne silty clays, till substratum	Prime farmland if drained
Ga	Galchutt silt loam	Prime farmland if drained
Gc	Galchutt-enloe-fargo complex	Prime farmland if drained
Gd	Galchutt-overly silt loams	Prime farmland if drained
Gr	Glyndon-tiffany very fine sandy loams	Prime farmland if drained
Gt	Glyndon-tiffany loams, moderately deep over clay	Prime farmland if drained
Kr	Kratka fine sandy loam	Prime farmland if drained
Lm	Lamoure silty clay loam	Prime farmland if drained
Pd	Parnell and tonka silty clay loams	Prime farmland if drained
Pr	Perella loam, moderately deep over clay	Prime farmland if drained
Ps	Perella silty clay loam, moderately deep over clay	Prime farmland if drained
Td	Tiffany fine sandy loam	Prime farmland if drained
Tf	Tiffany loam	Prime farmland if drained
Th	Tiffany loam, moderately deep over clay	Prime farmland if drained
Tk	Tonka silt loam	Prime farmland if drained
Va	Vallers clay loam	Prime farmland if drained

